

Message Text

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FM AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

TO USMISSION BERLIN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6067

AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L FRANKFURT 8036

USMISSION BERLIN FOR PSO, STATE FOR A/SY/T, BONN FOR RSO, RCO
FROM OIC/RTC

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC, ACOM

SUBJ: INTERCOM SYSTEMS

REF: (A) USBERLIN 2293 (PASEP)

(B) POST SECURITY OFFICER HANDBOOK, APRIL 1975

1. A/SY/T POLICY IS TO DISCOURAGE THE INTRODUCTION INTO ANY SPACES WHERE CLASSIFIED OR SENSITIVE CONVERSATIONS MIGHT TAKE PLACE, OF ANY DEVICES OR SYSTEMS WHICH CONTAIN MICROPHONES AND/OR SPEAKERS. WHILE TELEPHONES MUST BE ACCEPTED AS INDISPENSABLE IN MOST OFFICES, SOME PROTECTION IS STILL POSSIBLE BY THE INSTALLATION AND PROPER USE OF TELEPHONE SYSTEMS HAVING KEY-PAD DISCONNECT BUTTONS AND SECURITY LINE CARDS SUCH AS THE WESTERN ELECTRIC 1A1 OR 1A2 SYSTEMS. EVEN SUCH TELEPHONES ARE DISCOURAGED IN CONFERENCE ROOMS AND SPACES REQUIRING MAX SECURITY.

2. INTERCOM SYSTEMS, BEING BY THEIR VERY DESIGN, EXCELLENT AUDIO PICK-UP DEVICES, ARE ESPECIALLY PROSCRIBED FROM INTRODUCTION INTO SENSITIVE SPACES. EVEN SYSTEMS WITH QUOTE LOCAL MODIFICATIONS TO PHYSICALLY DISCONNECT THE MIC AND SPEAKER CIRCUITS UNQUOTE ARE TOO EASILY UNMODIFIED. ALSO STRICT PHYSICAL CONTROL OF THESE EQUIPMENTS, USUALLY LOCALLY PROCURED AND LOCALLY SERVICED COMMERCIAL QUALITY, AND OF THE INTERCONNECTED CABLES AND

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TERMINALS, IS NEVER POSSIBLE. SURREPTITIOUS CHANGES TO THE UNITS

OR ROUTING OF THE SIGNALS ARE POSSIBLE.

3. IT IS THE OPINION OF THIS CENTER THAT INSTALLATION OF AN INTER-COM SYSTEM EVEN IN OFFICES QUOTE WHERE CLASSIFIED IS NOT DISCUSSED UNQUOTE SHOULD BE AVOIDED DUE TO POSSIBILITIES OF SENSITIVE CONVERSATIONS OCCURRING EVEN IN THOSE SPACES, AND THE PROPENSITY OF SUCH A SYSTEM TO GROW INTO MORE RESTRICTED AREAS.

4. CHAPTER 5 OF REF (B) GIVES SOME ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE. A/SY/T IS REQUESTED TO COMMENT FURTHER, IF DESIRED. LEHMANN

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